

~~EXTRA~~

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

1

11 JULY 1962
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Communist China

a. The military situation is quiescent.

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b. There are indications that Communist authorities in the Kwangtung area of Southeast China are having much trouble providing adequate relief for flood victims since there is not enough food to go around. As time goes on, their problems promise to be compounded by the prevailing shortage of seed grain which precludes replanting of crops in the damaged areas.

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2. Laos

a. In Geneva, the tempo has slowed while consultations regarding the Lao declaration are in progress with SEATO members not represented at the conference. The initial reaction from Manila is encouraging.

b. Diem's first reaction yesterday to the President's letter was negative, but he later sent word to Ambassador Nolting indicating that his man in Geneva would be prepared to sign the final agreement. There is as yet no word on the final position the Thais will take, but we expect they, too, will eventually fall in line.

(cont'd)

c. On the local scene, Souphannouvong has once again flown off to Khang Khay leaving Phoumi in charge in Vientiane. The Soviet airlift is being used to redeploy Souvanna troops into the Plaine des Jarres for eventual transfer to Vientiane. Reports of skirmishes between rival forces probably reflect flare-ups of the back-country struggle between Kong Le - Pathet Lao forces and Meo guerrillas. 50X1

3. South Vietnam

4. West New Guinea

Ambassador Malik is on his way to the US and wants to resume secret talks with the Dutch immediately after his arrival tomorrow. Sukarno has given Malik a broad mandate to discuss any aspect of the Bunker proposals, but he must be able to report satisfactory progress within a week's time if negotiations for a peaceful settlement of the West New Guinea problem are to be kept on the tracks. 50X1

6. British Guiana

Cheddi Jagan's protest against London's recent decision to postpone until later this year a pre-independence constitutional conference is due to come before the UN Committee on Decolonization. The chances are that the committee will invite Jagan to make an early personal appearance and thereby keep the issue heated up. Jagan's desire that the committee undertake an inspection of Guiana is likely to go unfulfilled, however

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7. Algeria

a. It seems clear that the Rabat talks were inconclusive. Ben Bella is now said to be on his way to a triumphal reception in Oran.

[REDACTED]

We have seen no indication so far that Ben Khedda and his colleagues will give up so easily.

b. Ben Bella, no doubt concerned that his rivals have an inside track with foreign envoys, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] is personally well-disposed toward the United States and would remain so as long as the US remained aloof from the current factional struggle.

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NOTES

- [REDACTED]
- B. The squabble between Afghanistan and Pakistan seems at last to be headed for the conference table; Kabul has indicated an intention to go along with Karachi in accepting the good offices of the Shah of Iran. [REDACTED]
- C. As if to keep the record straight while a show of Sino-Soviet solidarity is being made at the Moscow Peace Conference, Peiping on Monday broadcast a message from Defense Minister Lin Piao in observance of Albania's Army Day citing the "correct leadership" of Enver Hoxha and stressing the "militantly indestructible" Sino-Albanian friendship.
- D. Soviet air and naval forces, including nuclear submarines, are active in the north Atlantic off Norway in maneuvers [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
- E. Adenauer is meeting with Erich Mende today with the expectations being that they will reaffirm the coalition of their respective parties. The coalition will probably be extended to North Rhine-Westphalia, where Adenauer's party has lost its majority.
- F. The approaching anniversary of Qasim's seizure of power in Iraq (Saturday) is marked by a new burst of coup rumors in Baghdad.
- G. Katanga's independence day has so far passed without incident.
[REDACTED]

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DOCUMENT OF INTEREST

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE